

Those who live on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, argue and believe, that a communication such as is proposed, cannot fail to affect the price of their staple commodities; and hence, measurably to impair their value. This may perhaps be true to some extent! It should be borne in mind however, that while probably this may be the case, advantages may at the same time be produced; articles of necessary consumption to the people of the Eastern Shore, which are not produced and cannot be produced there, may be correspondently reduced in price, whereby the equilibrium will be preserved in an exact ratio. In the bays and rivers to the east, fish and oysters, and in the mountains to the west, minerals of various kinds abound. To obtain these industry on the part of the inhabitants is necessary; and being exchanged, will conduce to the comfort and wealth of both. The lands of the eastern counties are worn and exhausted; the fish of their bays, and the plaster from abroad, make up their reliance for the improvement of the soil; but by an easy and free communication with the west, a more profitable opening will be presented. There lime is to be found plentifully, which in this climate is a cheaper and better fertilizer of the soil, than fish or plaster; and can be readily obtained in exchange for the former. Thus the one instead of being used as a manure will find its way into the interior, as a prized article of food with all classes; and in return for it, lime, a highly suitable manure, will be cheaply obtained.

Again, those who reside along the bay, will become the carriers in their shallops of the various articles brought down the canal to be distributed along the extensive coast of the Chesapeake; and in the pursuit will be found to employ much of the industry and labor of this section of the country. But finally, if this projected communication with the interior of the state by the competition it may create, shall have the effect to reduce in price the agricultural products of the Eastern Shore, there doubtless will be a correspondent increase in the quality of their products, from the improved capacity of the soil which the manure furnished will occasion, whereby the actual benefits, and conceived disadvantages may and will be equalised. Considered in this point of view, it is not possible, that the leading staples of the east, wheat, tobacco, corn and oats can be materially competed with by the same articles from the west, especially as the latter will be incumbered with